Regularisation of services of Aganwadi Workers

389. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are going to regularise the services of Anganwadi workers and ICDS since their workload has been increased manifold after they are attached to the Panchayats;

(b) whether in view of the Anganwadi workers discharging lot of functions, Government are considering to increase monthly payment from Rs. 700/- and Rs. 400/- to Rs. 2500/- and Rs. 1500/- respectively;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA): (a) No, Sir. The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Schemes envisages Anganwadi Workers to be honorary workers from the local communities.

(b) to (d) Recognising the significant services being provided by the Anganwadi Workers and Helpers, Government has decided in January 2003 to enhance the honoraria of Anganwadi Workers by Rs. 500/- per month and of Anganwadi Helpers by Rs. 240/- per month with effect from 1st April 2002. With this increase, the honoraria of Anganwadi Workers will be from Rs. 938/- to Rs. 1063/- per month, depending upon their qualifications and experience, and of Helpers will be Rs. 500/- per month. Necessary orders in this regard have already been issued.

World Bank assistance to improve technical education

390. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre launched an ambitious Rs. 1,550 crore programme to improve the quality of technical education through better infrastructure and improved access to international scientific and technical journals;